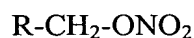


**CLAIMS:**

1. A method for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically-effective  
5 amount of a compound which inhibits the formation or release of  $\beta$ -amyloid and a therapeutically-effective amount of a nitric oxide releaser.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the nitric oxide releaser is a nitrate ester of an alkanol.
- 10 3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitor and said nitric oxide releaser are combined in a single dosage formulation.
4. The method according to claim 3 wherein said inhibitor and said nitric  
15 oxide releaser are combined in a compound of formula I:

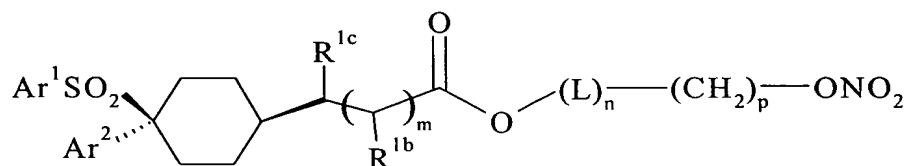


I

where R is such that R-CH<sub>2</sub>OH or R-CHO is an inhibitor of the formation or release of A $\beta$ ;

20 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound suitable for use in the method of claim 1, said compound being of formula II:



II

25

wherein:

m is 0 or 1;

n is 0 or 1;

$L$  is a linking group;

R<sup>1b</sup> represents H, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl or OH;

**R<sup>1c</sup>** represents H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;

Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> independently represent phenyl or heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, OH, OCF<sub>3</sub>, CHO, CH=NOH, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>acyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, OH and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein m is 1 and R<sup>1b</sup> and R<sup>1c</sup> are both H.

15            7.        A compound according to claim 5 wherein Ar<sup>1</sup> is 4-chlorophenyl or 4-trifluoromethylphenyl and Ar<sup>2</sup> is 2,5-difluorophenyl.

8. A compound according to claim 5 wherein L is represented by the formula:

20 -L<sup>1</sup>-C(O)O-

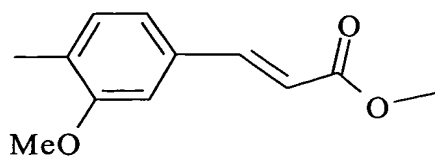
wherein L<sup>1</sup> is a hydrocarbon residue of up to 10 carbon atoms, optionally bearing up to 3 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy.

9. A compound according to claim 8 wherein L<sup>1</sup> represents

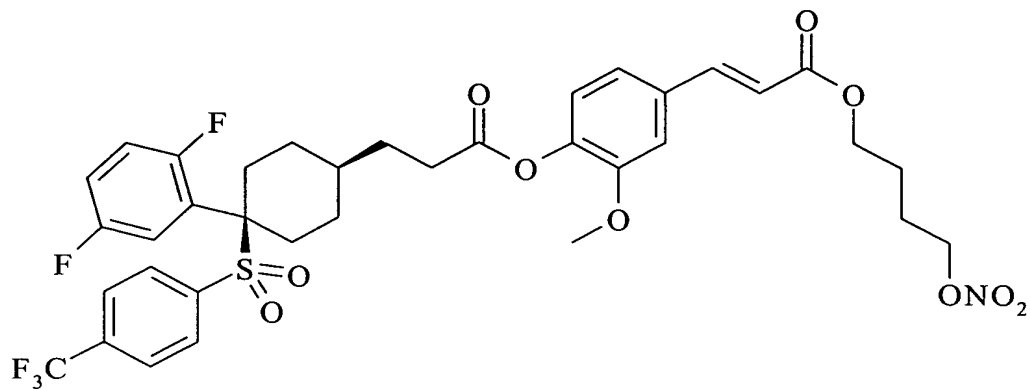
25  $-\text{Ar}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$

wherein Ar is a phenyl group bearing up to 2 substituents selected from hydroxy and methoxy.

10. A compound according to claim 5 wherein L represents:

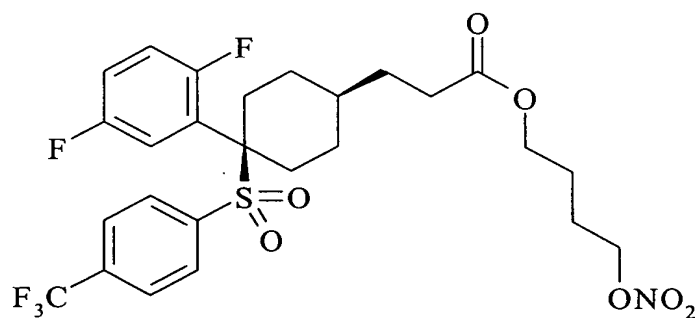


11. A compound according to claim 5 selected from:



5

and



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

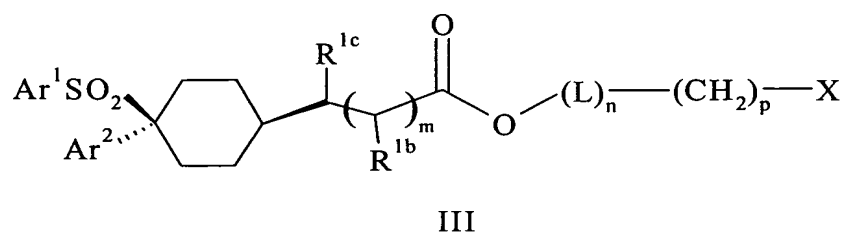
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12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5.

15

14. A method of preparing a compound according to claim 5 comprising reaction of a compound of formula III with silver nitrate:



where X represents chlorine, bromine or iodine, and m, n, p, L, R<sup>1b</sup>, R<sup>1c</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are as defined in claim 5.